Chapter 23
~The unliftable right hand~
The obstruction on Tomoya's path is...?
人们与小镇温暖心灵的故事
CLANNAD
-クラナド-
オフィシャルコミック
漫画：みさき樹里
原作：Key
制作協力：パルプライド
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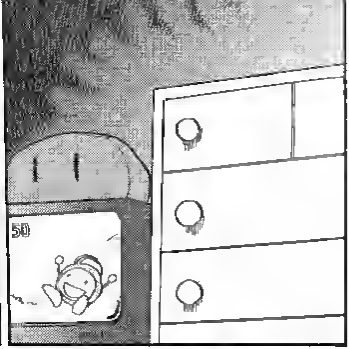
tap
tap
vsshhhhhhh
WELL, I'LL BE OFF NOW, TOMOYA!
SORRY! YOU'LL HAVE TO LOOK IN THE FRIDGE AND MAKE SOMETHING YOURSELF FOR LUNCH.
erm
HAHA DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME
HAVE A SAFE TRIP
前情提要
工作第一天，朋也的心里也点燃了新的斗志。可是，似乎因为对工作还不太习惯而无法满的身体的衰竭，又有一个巨大的障碍阻拦在了虽然不太成熟但是却不断努力前进的朋也面前!?

古河渚◆由于长期休学。现在复学后依然和中3年级。

岡崎朋也◆在学校时间是逼近阿名"不良少年"还是"问题男"。



SFX: ROLL

SOUND FROM NEIGHBOUR →

RETURN SOON, NAGISA!
NAGISA²
NAGISA
AH-CHOO!
DING DONG DING DONG DING DONG
AH
OH, I WAS TAKING A WALK AND I JUST HAPPENED TO END UP HERE
IS SOMETHING WRONG? WHY ARE YOU HERE?
ANYWAYS, DIDN'T YOU NEED TO BUY SOMETHING?
ta
TOMOYA!

OKAY, LET'S NOT DWELL ON IT. LET'S GET GOING.
Hehe
OKAY.
CORRECT.
YOU WERE TAKING A WALK IN THIS SORT OF WEATHER?
JUST HAPPENED TO—

WHEN IT BECAME COMPLETELY NATURAL TO HAVE NAGISA BY MY SIDE CONSTANTLY.
I DON'T KNOW WHEN IT STARTED

YEP. VERY SOON.
EVEN THOUGH OUR CLASS IS NOT DOING ANYTHING, I SAW A SCIENCE STUDENT WORKING PRETTY HARD
FOUNDER'S FESTIVAL?
... RIGHT. IT'S ALREADY THAT TIME AGAIN.

IF IT'S POSSIBLE...
THAT TOMOYA CAN MAKE IT, THEN I WOULD BE VERY HAPPY...
SO IF...
WHAT A SAMURAI NAME
HMM
I MEAN, I COULD BE CALLED TO WORK EVEN IF I HAVE THE DAY OFF...
EVEN A DAY LIKE TODAY, WHO KNOWS HOW MUCH IMPACT IT WILL HAVE?
AH... CAN I GO?
I SUPPOSE IF THERE'S NO WORK...
AH...
WAH!!
HOLD ON! HOLD ON!!!
I GUESS YOU C..N'T HELP IT IF IT'S WORK...
Depressed
clench
SO IT'S LIKE THAT...

I DIDN'T SAY I WON'T GO. IT'S JUST THAT THERE'S ALWAYS THAT POSSIBILITY...
AH...
I CAN'T GIVE YOU A CERTAIN ANSWER RIGHT NOW...
BUT I WILL DEFINITELY TRY TO GET THAT DAY OFF. IS THAT OKAY?
MM... SORRY...
ONCE AGAIN...
WHENEVER I THINK OF HAVING THAT CHANCE, I GET SO HAPPY...
I HAVE NO SELF-RESTRAINT WHEN IT COMES TO HOPING...
TO BE ABLE TO WALK WITH TOMOYA-KUN AROUND THE SCHOOL...
TO BROWSE BOOTHS...
AIYA!?
GEEZ, YOU...
THAT'S NOT ABOUT SELF-RESTRAINT AT ALL

NAGISA... FEEL FREE TO DEMAND MORE FROM ME...
HEHE...
REALLY THANK YOU
GEEZ
FOUNDER'S FESTIVAL, HUH...
AND IF IT'S POSSIBLE, I WOULD DEFINITELY LOVE TO BE THERE, WALKING SIDE BY SIDE WITH NAGISA ONCE AGAIN.
TRUTHFULLY, THIS IS THE LAST CHANCE TO GO TO THAT SCHOOL WITH NAGISA.

EH?
REALLY?
THIS WEEKEND...! THAT'S WHEN THE FOUNDER'S FESTIVAL IS...
... HOW BIG IS THIS CONTRACT EXACTLY?
.....
BECAUSE WE SIGNED A HUGE CONTRACT
YEAH, WE'LL BE VERY BUSY THIS WEEKEND
BUT HE CAN'T JUST TAKE ON SMALL JOBS FOREVER
OTHERWISE, WE'LL JUST CONTINUE TO TAKE THESE SMALL JOBS WE WANT TO EXPAND TOO
YOU COULD SAY IT'S A BIT LIKE TAKING ON THE IMPOSSIBLE,
THE BOSS IS GAMBLING HIS REPUTATION BY TAKING ON THIS JOB.
WELL...
I'M NOT CLEAR ON THE EXACT DETAILS, BUT THE TOTAL WILL BE IN THE EIGHT DIGIT RANGE.*
EIGHT ...!?
That much!?
YEAH

TL: IN YEN OR RMB

THAT'S REALLY IS IMPRESS-IVE
So that's how it is
IF IT HAPPENS, THEN THERE WOULD BE A LOT TO BE HAPPY ABOUT.
NOT, "IF IT HAPPENS."
WE HAVE TO DO IT.
Y-YES.
OKAZAKI, DO YOU HAVE THE TICKET FOR THE NEXT PLACE?
EH!? AH! I'LL FIND IT!
HERE THE FIRST ONE IS
WE MUST DO IT.
ME TOO?

ALRIGHT. STACK THAT ON THE SHELF IN THE CAR.
OKAY.

HOW MANY ARE WE MISSING?
ERM FOUR
HMM THEN WE CAN AFFORD NO DELAY

YOSHINO-SAN, I'VE FINISHED CLEANING
clack
clack
thud
thud

YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO ANYTHING ELSE TODAY
EH?

THERE'S NO OTHER CHOICE, TOMOYA

IT'S ALL MY FAULT...
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

LEAVE THE REST TO ME.
DO AS I SAY STAND TO THE SIDE AND WATCH.
ISN'T THAT JUST SAYING
I'VE ALREADY CONTACTED THE BOSS.
IF WE'RE LUCKY, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO FINISH BY 9.
WELL?
UNDERSTOOD!
ISN'T THAT JUST SAYING I'M IN THE WAY?
THEN, LET'S GO.

YOSHINO-SAN'S TECHNIQUE WAS SO INCREDIBLE THAT I WAS COMPLETELY ENTHRALLED.
WHEN I FINALLY CAME BACK TO MY SENSES, THE DAY'S WORK HAD BEEN FINISHED.
WE PACKED UP AT A SOONER TIME THAN THE ONE WE HAD ESTIMATED.
IT TOOK HIM HALF THE TIME IT WOULD HAVE TAKEN ME.
!
WHY ARE YOU APOLOGIZING?
BECAUSE I KEPT HOLDING US BACK!
I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING RIGHT!
I'M REALLY SORRY.
IT'S NOT JUST TODAY WHERE NOTHING HAS BEEN DONE RIGHT
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

IF I DON'T IMPROVE QUICKLY...
THE ROCK I CANNOT LIFT IS CRUSHING ME
EVEN THOUGH YOU TOLD ME NOT TO WORRY ABOUT IT...
DAMN IT
CLACK
DING DONG
YOU'RE HERE! GOOD DAY TO YOU.

HELLO
AIYA~ SORRY TO HAVE YOU MAKE THE TRIP JUST FOR ME
I JUST HAVE NO IDEA WHEN IT COMES TO THIS SORT OF THING
IS IT OKAY TO PARK THE CAR AT THE FRONT THERE?
YES, YES
WE ARE WORKERS FROM THE ELECTRIC COMPANY YOU CALLED EARLIER
Please come in
Excuse us
THERE ARE THESE SORT OF JOBS TOO
BUT WE'RE STILL DOING THE USUAL THINGS
ぱか
SFX OPEN
I DON'T KNOW WHY IT TRIPS LATELY
HMM
IT'S PROBABLY LEAKING ELECTRICITY THERE
I NEED TO EXAMINE IT CAN YOU TURN OFF THE MASTER SWITCH FOR A MOMENT?
YEP, YEP WELL, I'M GOING TO GO FOR A WALK WHILE YOU GUYS ARE WORKING

GET TO IT, OKAZAKI
OKAZAKI!!
AH, YES!
DON'T SPACE OUT!
GO CHECK THE DISTRIBUTOR.
GOT IT!

THE PROBLEM WAS ON THE SECOND FLOOR I GUESS A MOUSE OR SOME SMALL ANIMAL BIT THROUGH THE CORD.
WE WILL FIX THIS PART
SMILE
DON'T MENTION IT IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US.
I DON'T HAVE A MAN AROUND, SO I AM TRULY THANKFUL FOR YOUR HELP.
AIYA~ THANK YOU.
SMILE

THANKS A LOT!
BOW

BANG

THOSE SORT OF THINGS MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO QUIT THIS JOB.
YOU'LL SEE A SMILING FACE LIKE THAT ONE
SOME-TIMES
TOMOYA-KUN'S HARD WORK WILL DEFINITELY CREATE HAPPINESS FOR A LOT OF PEOPLE!
DEFINITELY!
A PRODUCTIVE PERSON SHOULD HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO BE HAPPY.
MAYBE IT REALLY IS LIKE THAT
YOU'RE RIGHT...

YOU DON'T SEEM TO BE VERY ATTENTIVE
AH... HUH?
REALLY... BUT I FEEL NORMAL.
TOMOYA.
ARE YOU TIRED?
!!
IT'S ALL MY FAULT.
TO ASK SUCH A STRAIGHT-FORWARD QUESTION... I'M SORRY IF IT ANNOYED YOU.
SLAM
WH-WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?!

I JUST HAVE TO WORK HARD. EVEN IF I HAVE TO DO IT MYSELF, I WILL MAKE SURE I CAN DO MY WORK COMPETENTLY.
NO.
THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH NAGISA.
YEP. THIS IS MY OWN RESPONSIBILITY.
AH.
SPEAKING OF WHICH,
IT HAS BEEN HALF A MONTH SINCE YOU FIRST STARTED, RIGHT?
AH, YEAH. IT'S BEEN AROUND TWO WEEKS.
YEAH?
AND YOU'VE BEEN EXCHANGING LIGHTBULBS AND CLEANING UP - THAT SORT OF WORK.

SHOCK
YES, SIR!
UH -
OKAZAKI, I WILL ASK YOU TO TAKE OVER AND FINISH THIS JOB.
THIS SHOULDN'T TAKE MORE THAN ONE PERSON.
CLENCH
IF I FOCUS, THERE SHOULD NOT BE ANY PROBLEMS.
I'VE DONE IT COUNTLESS TIMES
DO YOU REMEMBER THE PROCEDURE?
YEP!
...

WHY IS IT ALL THE WAY TO THE RIGHT?
MY LEFT HAND WON'T BE ABLE TO REACH THAT FAR!
NO WAY...
WITH THE STATE OF MY RIGHT ARM... I CAN'T LIFT IT TO THAT HEIGHT!
I CAN'T POSITION THE LADDER ON THE RIGHT EITHER
CLANG
WHAT SHOULD I DO IN THIS SITUATION?
RIGHT! MY SAFETY BELT!
WHAT'S WRONG?
NO-THING
THINK! WHAT CAN I DO?
EVEN IN THE WORST OF CASES, I WILL ONLY END UP BEING SUSPENDED IN MID-AIR.

THEN MAYBE MY LEFT ARM WILL HAVE ENOUGH REACH...
I'LL GET THE LADDER AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE, AND SECURE MYSELF WITH THE SAFETY BELT.
!?
IF YOU FALL, YOU WILL PULL YOUR ABDOMINAL MUSCLES. GET DOWN.
GET DOWN, OKAZAKI.
STOP!
B-BUT... I HAVEN'T...!
YOU CAN'T LIFT YOUR RIGHT ARM, RIGHT?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
LET ME TAKE OVER.

WHEN...
brrrr-ooom
THAT...
THAT I COULDN'T LIFT MY RIGHT ARM.
...
WHEN DID YOU FIND OUT...
FIND OUT?
IT'S OBVIOUS.
IF IT'S LIKE THAT, THEN WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY ANYTHING!?
AND? WHAT GOOD WILL TALKING DO?
IS THERE ANY CHANCE FOR YOUR ARM TO GET BETTER?
NO.

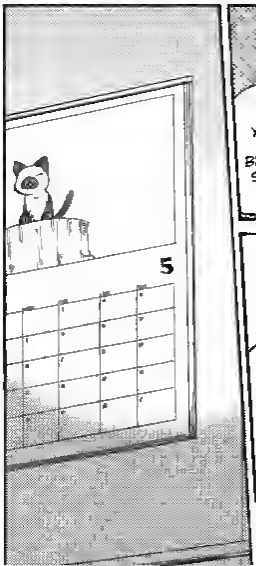
THEN THAT'S ALL
Scree
NO! IT'S NOT A GOOD THING!
I'VE TRIED TO KEEP THIS HIDDEN FOR SO LONG!
CALM DOWN, OKAZAKI
THIS...
BUT HAVEN'T YOU BEEN TRYING HARD ALL THIS TIME?
BE-CAUSE OF THIS...
I WON'T BLAME THEM IF THEY DISMISS ME...
TRUTHFULLY, YOU ARE PROBABLY NOT SUITED TO THIS TYPE OF WORK.
HOWEVER, HAVEN'T YOU BEEN GRITTING YOUR TEETH AND TRYING YOUR HARDEST EVEN WHEN YOUR HANDS HAVE BEEN TIED?
I HAVE TAKEN ALL OF THAT INTO ACCOUNT

EVEN IF I WANTED TO HELP YOU, YOU ONLY PUSHED ON SILENTLY
YOUR DETERMINED EXPRESSION DETERED MY DESIRE TO HELP
NO. ACTUALLY, I'VE WANTED TO HELP YOU, BUT YOU HAVEN'T LET ME...
HUH...
ALL THIS TIME...
THANK YOU REALLY...
!
IDIOT. THERE'S NO NEED TO THANK ME.
I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING TO DESERVE YOUR THANKS.
HE HAS EVEN BEEN PAYING ATTENTION TO SUCH A SMALL DETAIL
BUT...
FROM NOW ON, RELY ON ME MORE, OKAY?

I'VE NEVER CONSIDERED THAT A BURDEN YOU SHOULD BE CARRYING ALONE...
I DON'T WANT TO TROUBLE YOU ANY FURTHER...
SO TROUBLE ME ALL YOU WANT.
AFTER ALL, WHAT DO YOU THINK I'M HERE FOR?
BUT -
I CAN'T DO ANYTHING BY MYSELF EITHER.
I CAN RELY ON...
BECAUSE WE WORK TOGETHER SO, DON'T WORRY - DEPEND ON ME ALL YOU WANT
THAT IS THE REASON WHY THE BOSS AND EVERYONE ELSE ARE HERE...

WHAT AM I STRUGGLING SO HARD TO PROVE ANYWAYS?
SO HOLD YOUR THANKS UNTIL THAT TIME COMES.
OKAY?
YEAH...
LIKE A MORON...
WANTING TO DO EVERYTHING MYSELF...
...YEAH.
FOR NOW, IT WILL BE ENOUGH.
I ONLY NEED TO PROTECT NAGISA.

THE NEXT DAY
AH, OKAZAKI-KUN! GOOD TIMING.
IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG?
WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH WORKERS FOR THE WEEKEND
ARE YOU ABLE TO WORK ON SATURDAY?
YEAH, I'LL BE FREE FOR SATURDAY.
AND SUNDAY?
I'M AFRAID SUNDAY...
UM... IF IT'S OKAY WITH YOU, I WOULD LIKE SUNDAY OFF.
NO PROBLEM THEN WE'LL BE SEEING YOU SATURDAY.
YOU CAN HAVE A BREAK ON SUNDAY.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THAT'S FINE WITH ME... BUT IS IT REALLY OKAY WITH YOU?
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO HAVE THE DAY OFF ANYWAYS.
AH, HAVING YOU WORK SATURDAY WILL BE A BIG HELP!

AH
Then
THEN CAN WE BROWSE ALL THE BOOTHS AND STUFF?
I'LL TREAT TO YOU ALL THE FRIED NOODLES YOU CAN EAT
Ha ha ha ha ha
REALLY?
YEP. THE BOSS SAID I CAN TAKE SUNDAY OFF
WE CAN GO TO THE FOUNDER'S FESTIVAL
MORE-OVER
Haha
I'M SO HAPPY...
THAT WE CAN GO TO THE FOUNDER'S FESTIVAL TOGETHER...
TO BE ABLE TO ONCE AGAIN GO TO SCHOOL WITH TOMOYA-KUN...
I'M SO GLAD!

GEEZ
?
I ALREADY SAID YOU DON'T HAVE TO HOLD BACK
AH, YEAH
So happy
So happy
Huh!? What a blinding ray of love
I really like Tomoya kun ~
Hehehe
Then
ON THAT DAY, CAN WE HOLD HANDS THE WHOLE DAY?
he he he
OF COURSE MAKE SURE YOU DON'T LET GO
THAT DAY, THE TWO OF US KEPT LAUGHING
WE COULDN'T STOP
The distance between the two shortens once again...
6月号 待续

TRANSLATIONS, EDITS, ETC. ETC. : KIO

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